<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please amend claims 1 and 16 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for processing data comprising:

receiving a plurality of fixed coordinates [[that]] <u>, each independently</u> representing a location of an item;

utilizing a cryptographic algorithm to [[process]] <u>encrypt</u> the plurality of fixed coordinates forming a processed data; and

comparing the processed data to at least a portion of secondary data <u>that comprises one or more fixed coordinates to determine whether a match exists</u>.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving data representing the location of the item and determining the plurality of fixed coordinates that represent the location of the item prior to receiving the plurality of fixed coordinates.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of storing the processed data in a database.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of comparing the processed data to at least a portion of secondary data includes the secondary data comprising data previously stored in a database.

5. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of matching the processed data to the at least a portion of secondary data that is determined to reflect an identical one of the plurality of fixed coordinates.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of issuing a signal based upon a user-defined rule.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of determining the plurality of fixed coordinates that represent the location occurs in relation to a grid.

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8. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 7 wherein the grid comprises a uniform grid.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 7 wherein the grid comprises a non-uniform grid.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 7 wherein the grid is a multi-dimensional grid.

11. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 7 wherein the grid is based upon a user-defined criterion.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 11 wherein the user-defined criterion corresponds with quantity.

13. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 11 wherein the user-defined criterion corresponds to time.

14. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of determining the plurality of fixed coordinates that represent the location includes the step of determining a nearest of the plurality of fixed coordinates.

15. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of determining a plurality of fixed coordinates that represent the location includes the step of determining the plurality of fixed coordinates surrounding the location.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) For a system for processing data and a computer readable medium containing program instructions for execution by a computer for performing the method comprising:

receiving a plurality of fixed coordinates [[that]] , each independently representing a location of an item;

utilizing a cryptographic algorithm to [[process]] encrypt the plurality of fixed coordinates forming a processed data; and

comparing the processed data to at least a portion of secondary data that comprises one or more fixed coordinates to determine whether a match exists.

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17. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 16 further comprising the step of receiving data representing the location of the item and determining the plurality of fixed coordinates that represent the location of the item prior to receiving the plurality of fixed coordinates.

18. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 16 further comprising the step of storing the processed data in a database.

19. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 16 wherein the step of comparing the processed data to at least a portion of secondary data includes the secondary data comprising data previously stored in a database.

20. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 16 further comprising the step of matching the processed data to the at least a portion of secondary data that is determined to reflect an identical one of the plurality of fixed coordinates.

21. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 16 further comprising the step of issuing a signal based upon a user-defined rule.

22. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 16 wherein the step of determining the plurality of fixed coordinates that represent the location occurs in relation to a grid.

23. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 22 wherein the grid comprises a uniform grid.

24. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 22 wherein the grid comprises a non-uniform grid.

25. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 22 wherein the grid is a multi-dimensional grid.

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26. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 22 wherein the grid is based upon a user-defined criterion.

27. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 26 wherein the user-defined criterion corresponds with quantity.

28. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 26 wherein the user-defined criterion corresponds to time.

29. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 16 wherein the step of determining the plurality of fixed coordinates that represent the location includes the step of determining the nearest of the plurality of fixed coordinates.

30. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium for performing the method of claim 16 wherein the step of determining a plurality of fixed coordinates that represent the location includes the step of determining the plurality of fixed coordinates surrounding the location.

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